OLR Bill Analysis HB 6681

AN ACT CONCERNING OPERATION OF A TRUCK IN VIOLATION OF A TRAFFIC CONTROL REGULATION PROHIBITING THROUGH TRUCK TRAFFIC.

SUMMARY:

This bill specifies that operating a truck on a highway that prohibits through truck traffic is an infraction, with certain exceptions.

By law, failure to comply with any (1) traffic control signal, sign, marking, or other device placed and maintained on a highway or (2) regulation adopted by authorized agencies or traffic authorities is an infraction, if no other penalty is provided by law. Under the bill, any such violation as it relates to the prohibition of through truck traffic is not an infraction if the truck operator has (1) a permit to operate the truck on such highway or (2) evidence of a starting point or destination within the municipality through which the highway passes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Highway

"Highway" includes any state or other public highway, road, street, avenue, alley, driveway, parkway or place, under the control of the state or any political subdivision of the state, dedicated, appropriated or opened to public travel or other use (CGS § 14-1(40)).

Truck

"Truck" means a motor vehicle designed, used, or maintained primarily for transporting property (CGS § 14-1(94)).

Infraction

An infraction is a breach of a state law, regulation or local

ordinance, for which an appearance in court is usually not required and payment of the amount due can be made in person, by mail, or online to the Centralized Infractions Bureau.

Limited-Access Highways

The Office of the State Traffic Administration, in cooperation and agreement with local traffic authorities, makes regulations governing the use of streets and highways by through truck traffic within the limits of, any city, town, or borough of the state. When doing so, they consider the width and character of the highways and roads and the density and character of the traffic on them. A list of limited-access highways is updated once a year (CGS § 14-298).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 44 Nay 0 (04/19/2013)